

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 06792 01 OF 02 051026Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00
INRE-00 DOEE-00 /026 W
-----025004 051034Z /11
O 050955Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9209
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 06792

EXDIS USCTB

PASS TO DOE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM US UK UR
SUBJECT: CTB NEGOTIATIONS: US PLENARY STATEMENT,
MAY 4, 1978

CTB MESSAGE NO. 191

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT DELIVERED AT PLENARY
MAY 4 BY GERALD W. JOHNSON, ALTERNATE US REPRESENTATIVE.
BEGIN TEXT:

I AM PLEASED TO WELCOME TO OUR TRILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS
THE NEW HEAD OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION, DR. PETROSYANTS.
AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR THE UTILIZATION OF
ATOMIC ENERGY, DR. PETROSYANTS BRINGS GREAT PROFESSIONAL
STATURE AND VAST PERSONAL EXPERIENCE TO OUR NEGOTIATIONS.
I AM SURE THAT HE WILL CONTRIBUTE MUCH TO THE SUCCESS OF
OUR WORK. MAY I ADD THAT WE WILL ALL CERTAINLY MISS
DR. MOROKHOV. WE ASK OUR SOVIET COLLEAGUES TO CONVEY OUR
VERY BEST WISHES TO DR. MOROKHOV.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06792 01 OF 02 051026Z

THE LAST ROUND OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS SHOWED ENCOURAGING
PROGRESS IN THE SENSE THAT IT MARKED THE ACTUAL START OF
THE TREATY NEGOTIATING PROCESS. ILLUSTRATIVE TEXTS WERE
PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. ALTERNATIVE TEXTS WERE ADVANCED.
ON SOME QUESTIONS, THE TASK OF REFINING TREATY LANGUAGE
WAS BEGUN.

NONETHELESS, AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE LAST ROUND IT WAS CLEAR THAT DIFFERENCES--INCLUDING SOME SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES OF APPROACH--REMAIN, AND THAT WE CANNOT EXPECT THE TASK OF FINDING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS TO BE QUICK OR EASY. THE U.S. DELEGATION HAS RETURNED TO GENEVA RESOLVED TO CONTINUE AND INTENSIFY THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

WE HAVE SPENT THE WEEKS SINCE THE LAST ROUND PREPARING FOR A HARDWORKING PERIOD OF VERY DETAILED AND INTENSE NEGOTIATIONS.

VERIFICATION ISSUES RECEIVED MUCH ATTENTION DURING THE LAST ROUND, REFLECTING THEIR IMPORTANCE TO EACH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS. WE CONTINUE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO RESOLVING VERIFICATION ISSUES, AS WE TRUST OUR NEGOTIATING PARTNERS DO AS WELL. IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AND WEEKS WE INTEND TO RESUME OUR DETERMINED EFFORTS TO FIND PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO KEY VERIFICATION ISSUES.

AMONG THESE ISSUES, THE MOST COMPLEX IS THE QUESTION OF INTERNAL SEISMIC INSTALLATIONS. WE HAVE PRESENTED A DETAILED, SPECIFIC PROPOSAL ON ISIS, INCLUDING SUGGESTIONS WITH RESPECT TO MANY OF THEIR TECHNICAL ASPECTS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING DISCUSSION OF THESE ASPECTS.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 06792 01 OF 02 051026Z

WE HAVE ALSO CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE EXCHANGES WITH OUR SOVIET NEGOTIATING PARTNERS TOWARD THE END OF THE LAST ROUND AND WE WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL WAYS IN WHICH WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

ON THE QUESTION OF INITIATING OSIS, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT RAPID PROGRESS CAN BE MADE IN FINDING FORMULATIONS THAT ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF ALL SIDES. TOWARD THE END OF OUR LAST ROUND, MY DELEGATION SUGGESTED A NUMBER OF POSSIBLE NEW FORMULATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO FACILITATE AGREEMENT, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO EXPLORING THESE POSSIBILITIES IN AN APPROPRIATE WORKING FORUM.

WORKING OUT THE RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS OF ON-SITE INSPECTION PERSONNEL REMAINS AN IMPORTANT PRIORITY. HERE TOO, WE LOOK FORWARD TO INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS AND HOPE THAT WE CAN DEVELOP MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS SOON. IN THE COURSE OF THE PRESENT ROUND, WE WILL ALSO EXPECT TO CONSIDER SUCH VERIFICATION MATTERS AS THE INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC DATA EXCHANGE AND THE NATURE OF THE MULTILATERAL BODY THAT WILL ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING THE TREATY.

ALTHOUGH VERIFICATION WILL BE A CENTRAL AND PRESSING
SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION, WE HAVE OTHER CRUCIAL TASKS BEFORE
US. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS MUST BE MADE ON
ALL NEGOTIATING FRONTS. IN PARTICULAR, THE CRUCIAL
ISSUES OF DURATION AND PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS NEED
TO BE DISCUSSED AND RESOLVED. WE AWAIT MOVEMENT BY OUR
SOVIET NEGOTIATING PARTNERS ON THESE ISSUES THAT WILL
ENABLE US AT LONG LAST TO FIND WORKABLE SOLUTIONS.

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06792 02 OF 02 051017Z
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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 06792

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PASS TO DOE

DURING THE LAST ROUND, NOT THE LEAST OF OUR ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS WAS TO ESTABLISH A SOUND AND WORKABLE PROCEDURAL
FRAMEWORK FOR OUR NEGOTIATIONS. WITH THAT APPARATUS
ALREADY IN PLACE, LET US PROCEED QUICKLY AND PURPOSEFULLY
WITH OUR WORK. THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION IS PREPARED
TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN ITS POWER TO PROMOTE TANGIBLE
RESULTS IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. END TEXT. JOHNSON

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